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Get Truth on CIA and Cuba

The central intelligence agency plays the "dirty tricks" game for the United States, and undoubtedly some of its activities are necessary in this messy world. But there have been so many places where the CIA has overplayed or misplayed its hand that the current investigation into its activities and effectiveness is a vital chore.

Out of that investigation should come the truth about some very disturbing reports concerning the CIA and the Cuban refugees' invasion of their homeland, which failed so miserably.

First there is the report, undenied, that the CIA held 17 Cubans in "protective custody" in Guatemala for 11 weeks. They were said to be dissenters who needed protection from other Cubans.

Then there is the report that a number of Cubans were held incommunicado near Miami during the invasion attempt. Finally there is the story that even now survivors of the invasion are being held on a Caribbean island to prevent their story from being told.

These are not proper activities for an agency of a free nation. We don't need police state methods — we can't have them if the freedom we want to secure is to mean anything. The country deserves an explanation.